

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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November 16, 2009

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William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

### **SACRAMENTO UPDATE**

This memorandum contains an update on the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's (CDCR) revised plan to reduce the State prison inmate population, the announcement of membership to the Assembly Select Committee on Re-entry in California by Assembly Speaker Karen Bass, and the status of SBX7-1 (Simitian), Water Supply and Reliability.

## <u>California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Response on Prison</u> Reform

On November 12, 2009, CDCR filed a revised plan with the three-judge Federal Court panel in response to the concerns with CDCR's previous plan to reduce the State's prison population. CDCR believes the revised plan will meet the order to reduce the State prison capacity level from the current 190 percent to 137.5 percent by the end of 2011.

As part of the revised plan, the Administration will seek legislation early next year to:

- increase the monetary threshold for grand theft;
- provide alternative custody housing options;
- continue the California Correctional Out-of-State Facility Program and increase the number of inmates that can be held in out-of-state custody;
- enable CDCR to accelerate construction of in-state capacity authorized by AB 900; and
- expedite leasing, building and/or operating new beds through the establishment of private vendor contracts to house inmates and operate private facilities in the State.

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Each Supervisor November 16, 2009 Page 2

### Assembly Select Committee on Re-entry in California

On November 13, 2009, Assembly Speaker Karen Bass announced membership of the Select Committee on Re-entry in California. The Committee was created in May 2009 to respond to issues raised in a Rand Corporation report titled "Understanding the Public Health Implications of Prisoner Re-entry in California." Assembly Speaker Bass stated that the Committee's work "is critical to our efforts to improve public safety, reform our overburdened corrections system and reduce costs to the State Budget."

Assembly Member Isadore Hall will chair the Committee. The members include: Tom Ammiano, Marty Block, Steve Bradford, Nathan Fletcher, Felipe Fuentes, Warren Furutani, Dave Jones, Jim Nielsen, Sandré Swanson, Alberto Torrico, and Norma Torres. The Committee plans to conduct its first hearing in February 2010.

### Status of Water Supply and Reliability Legislation

SBX7 1 (Simitian), which would replace the existing Bay Delta Authority and CalFed Program with a new governance structure intended to balance the needs of Delta communities, water users, and the environment, was signed by the Governor on November 12, 2009, and becomes effective February 4, 2010. This was the last bill of the five-bill water package signed by the Governor to address the State's water crisis.

The new governance structure under SBX7 1: 1) creates the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) to develop and implement a new Delta plan; 2) creates the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy to acquire lands and to facilitate ecosystem restoration; 3) requires the Delta Protection Commission (DPC) to develop a regional economic sustainability plan that includes creation of a Delta Investment Fund in the State Treasury; 4) requires the DPC to submit recommendations regarding expansion of the Delta zone to the Legislature; and 5) requires the DSC to consider DPC recommendations if they are consistent with the Delta Plan objectives.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA MR:IGEA:lm

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
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